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## **DEI MEMO 20-09**

To: ICs and HRGs

**FROM:** Department of Employee Insurance

**RE:** New Guidance for Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs)

**DATE:** May 25, 2020

The Internal Revenue Service released guidance to allow temporary changes to section 125 cafeteria plans Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs). These changes allow taxpayers to make mid-year changes without a qualifying event. The guidance issued addressed unanticipated changes in expenses because of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and it also increases the \$500 permitted carryover amount from 2020 to 2021 for healthcare FSAs.

Changes permitted under the new guidance for Healthcare FSA and Child & Adult Daycare FSA

- Revoke an election, make a new election, decrease or increase an existing election applicable to a Healthcare FSA on a prospective basis.
  - o Increase may be used for medical expenses incurred after 1/1/2020.
- Revoke an election, make a new election, or decrease an existing election regarding a Child & Adult Daycare FSA on a prospective basis.
- Changes are prospective from the signature date on the enrollment form.

If there is not a valid qualifying event and someone requests to make changes based on this new guidance, please use the signature date for the qualifying event date on the enrollment form.

NOTE: Please remember that a member  $\underline{CANNOT}$  decrease or revoke the FSA if the money is already spent.